Camp Irwin. Louisville Ky.
Feb. 5th 1862

Cousin Dan,

I receid. your letter directed to me at Racine. This morning. our mail that came to Racine after we left was taken out by some of the boys we left there sick and brought through by them. I got three letters this morning one from you one from your mother and one from a particular friend of mine no matter about the name. So you see I have had plenty of news to read ile keep us busy for an hour. and now I will commence answering the beginning with yours first. Among which is but hardly worth a shuck. I haint much to write that is of any interest to you as

weltering around here in the mud as usual. we have got a part of our horses and the non commissioner officers have got their six arms. which are a cavalry sabre and colts navy revolver. We have to drill now every day, one section goes out with the teams and the remainder drill on the guns in camp. I expect we shall have the rest of our horses in a short time. and then we shall be ready for them. I have got my horse and equipments. every thing complete. I tell you I have got a gay old beast. we got news last evening that our boys had taken Fort Henry. you could hear nothing but the roar of guns here Boston Common has been firing with the rest. I am Sergeant of the guard to day. that gives me plenty of time for writing. I don't know any thing to do except to see that the

ground is posted properly.
Ben has gone back into the ranks he is now in my platoon. several other corporals bolted to the rear they don't like the idea of being a privates waiter.
Hank and I were both about sick with colds when we got here but am about well now I think that I shall like this country quite well if the mud ever dries up. There is no frost in the ground. Some of the farmers here commenced ploughing but I suppose you are having cold weather in Wis. now probably have to keep your ears tied up to keep them from freezing. Here a man will be warm enough in his shirt sleeves. We are pretty well now. our boys have got the lazy fever and it is astonishing how the vegetables roll in their mights. We have

a buddy dinner to day. boiled beef and pork turnips potatoes beets and cabbage I don't think there is any possibility of our starving by there is any provisions in the country

I guess I'll have to quit this and commence another letter. I have got to work some more between this and morning, some of them I shall have to be a little more particular about how I have been writing this one of the especially. I have a good notion to write to that girl of yours perhaps she would like to have a friendly interview with me.

I guess that I will write to her anyway, as I understand my girl is corresponding with you I guess that I can write you enough for one so I'll quit

Give my respects to

Andrew

E L Hadley

Rec'd Feb 25th 62
Mr. Davis Haskett
Jeiseville. Clark Co
Wisconsin